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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

OMGBA, ESSAMA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3726

DATE MAILED: 04/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 4, 8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sabo (US Patent 3,471,160).

With regards to claims 1 and 8, Sabo discloses an extraction tool for extracting threaded inserts, the tool comprising an elongated basic body having a first end, a second end, and a longitudinal axis (fig. 1), an extracting tip 24 on the body first end, the extracting tip having a front end and narrowing toward the front of the extraction tip, the extraction tip for being inserted with a cutting action into the threaded insert to be extracted (col. 4, lines 39-68), means 31 for turning the extraction tool about the body longitudinal axis on the body second end, wherein at least a section of the extracting tip has the shape of a steep-angle truncated pyramid and wherein the extracting tip comprises a true square cross section (figs. 1 and 4). Applicant should note that it is inherent that the extracting tip of the tool of Sabo is made of hardened steel.

For claim 4, see figure 1.

For claim 11, the body second end of the tool of Sabo could be considered an impact adapter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 4-12, 14, 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Caminez (US Patent 2,244,824) in view of Sabo.

With regards to claims 1, 8 and 12, Caminez discloses an extraction tool for extracting spiral threaded inserts, the tool comprising an elongated basic body 2 with an extracting tip 3 at one end, the extracting tip narrowing toward the front and adapted to be inserted into a threaded insert and cut into the insert, means 4 provided at another end for turning the extraction too, wherein a section of the tip has the shape of a steep-angle truncated pyramid with a square cross section with the angle of inclination of the faces of the truncated pyramid relative to a central axis thereof being only a few degrees, see the first page and the drawings. Although the extracting tip of the tool of Caminez does not comprise a true square cross section, however Sabo teaches such extracting tip, see figures 1 and 4. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to have substituted the extracting tip of the tool of Caminez with the one taught by Sabo, in order to provide improved engagement between the tool and the insert. Applicant should note that the tool of Caminez could be inserted by means of blows on its read end and that it is inherent that the tool of Caminez is made of hardened steel.

With regards to claims 4-7, Caminez/Sabo discloses an extraction tool as shown above except for the extraction tip being screwed to the basic body using a fastening screw. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have formed the extracting tip and the basic body of the tool of Caminez/Sabo in various elements since it has been held that constructing a formerly integral structure in various elements involves only routine skill in the art. *Nerwin v. Erlichman*, 168 USPQ 177, 179. Applicant should note that having the adjoining section of the extracting tip be in the shape of a square section is an obvious matter of design choice wherein no stated problem is solved or unexpected results obtained in having the adjoining section be in the shape of a square section versus the shape taught by Caminez as long as the tool is adapted to apply torque to the threaded insert. Also it is well within the general knowledge of one of ordinary skill in the art to appropriately connect the various elements together.

With regards to claim 9, Caminez/Sabo discloses an extraction tool as shown above including means for turning the extraction tool. Although Caminez does not disclose a hexagonal tubular piece as the means for turning the tool, however it is within the general knowledge of one of ordinary skill in the art to provide appropriate means for turning the tool. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to have provided the tool of Caminez/Sabo with a hexagonal tubular piece for turning the tool, as is within the general knowledge of one of ordinary skill in the art.

For claims 11 and 16, Applicant should note that providing the basic body as a plurality of parts connected to each other by welding is an obvious matter of design choice wherein no stated problem is solved or unexpected results obtained in providing the tool body as a plurality of parts welded together versus an integral one piece as taught by Caminez.

For claim 10, head 1 of the tool of Caminez could be considered an impact adapter.

For claim 14, Applicant should note that the structures of the insert and of the inspection port lend no patentable weight to the method being claimed.

For claim 17, Applicant should note that the structure the inspection port lend no patentable weight to the method being claimed.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 3, 18-25 and 28-30 are allowed.
6. Claims 26, 27 and 31 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Applicant's arguments filed January 17, 2006 are persuasive as they relate to claim 3.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 4-12, 14, 16 and 17 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

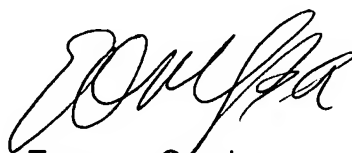
9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Essama Omgba whose telephone number is (571) 272-4532. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-6:30, 1st Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, George Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-4491. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Essama Omgba
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3726

eo
March 31, 2006